Supporting Families Experiencing Homelessness

October 19, 2017
Presenters

- Arlene Rose, Assistant Director, Operations and Program Support, Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
- Sarah Pontious, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator, Action for Children, Columbus, Ohio
- Siobhan Bredin, National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment
- Mary Beth Jackson, National Center on Child Care Subsidy Innovation and Accountability
- Ronna Schaffer, Child Care State Capacity Building Center
The broad goal of NCASE is to ensure that school-age children in families of low-income have increased access to afterschool and summer learning experiences that contribute to children’s overall development and academic achievement.
• **School-Age** care refers to the age of children served; differentiated from infant, toddler, and preschool care.

• **Out-of-School Time** refers to programming outside of the school day, including before and after school, summer, weekend, and family or center-based child care.

• Our National Center name is **Afterschool and Summer Enrichment**, and we use this interchangeably with Out-of-School Time.
Objectives

Participants will:

• Explore requirements in the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act regarding services to families experiencing/at risk for homelessness

• Share strategies to implement requirements

• Identify resources available to states
Agenda

• School-age data & impacts on learning
• Poll: new requirements
• New requirements and definitions
  » Reflection: meeting new requirements
• Coordinating services; Arkansas example
  » Chat: collaboration
  » State & local contacts
• Outreach – state examples
  » Arkansas
  » Ohio
  » Chat: innovative strategies
School-Age Data

Nearly 1.5 Million school-age children experienced homelessness in 2014

One in 30!

Impacts on Learning

- 75 percent of homeless elementary school students performed below grade level in reading and math.
- 50 percent of homeless children were held back for one grade, and 22 percent were held back for multiple grades.
- Four times more likely to show delayed development, and twice as likely to have a learning disability as non-homeless children.
- More likely to have acute health problems.
- More than 50 percent have problems with anxiety and depression.

Poll

• What are the new requirements in the CCDBG Act and in the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Final Rule?
Four New CCDF Requirements from the Act

- Coordinate with agencies responsible for services to children experiencing homelessness
- Establish grace periods (including health & safety requirements) to comply with enrollment requirements

Four New CCDF Requirements from the Act (cont.)

• Collect data on the number of families experiencing homelessness served

• Improve access by using funds to
  » Permit enrollment while documentation is obtained
  » Train providers and appropriate lead agency staff on identifying and serving children experiencing homelessness
  » Provide outreach

Two New CCDF Requirements from the Final Rule

- Use the McKinney-Vento Act definition used by Head Start and Department of Education (Subtitle VII-B of 42 U.S.C. 11434a)
- Prioritize services to children experiencing homelessness
The term “homeless children and youths” means:

“Individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence…”

Section 725(2) McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
(42 U.S.C. 11434a(2))
How is your state doing in meeting homelessness requirements?
“No single system can meet all the needs of young children and parents experiencing homelessness.”

Policy Statement on Meeting the Needs of Families with Young Children Experiencing and At Risk of Homelessness
October 31, 2016
Collaboration

Successfully meeting the needs of families experiencing homelessness requires a cross-sector, collaborative, and comprehensive approach based on relationships and partnerships between local housing and early childhood providers.

Policy Statement on Meeting the Needs of Families with Young Children Experiencing and At Risk of Homelessness
Arkansas

Arlene Rose
Assistant Director
Operations and Program Support
Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
Partnerships

Community-based Organizations

Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

Children Today, Leaders Tomorrow

Arkansas Department of Education

Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Providers

DCCECE PD Contractors

ChildCare Aware of Arkansas
Chat room activity

• Who have you or could you collaborate with to provide services for families experiencing homelessness?

• If you have had experiences working with your McKinney-Vento liaison, please describe those experiences.
State and Local Contacts

For services to families experiencing homelessness:

• Visit the State map at
  » Click on a State or the State name listed underneath to go to the “State Page”
  » Under the “State Contact” on the top left column, there is a hyperlink to the “Local Liaison Directory”
  » This information should be updated annually as of October 1, 2016
Improve access by Using Funds to: Provide Outreach

- Agreements with agency offices that provide services to families experiencing homelessness to share information
  - TANF, SNAP, WIC, Housing authorities, DCF

- CCR&R offices, consumer websites, HS/EHS programs

- Flyers/trainings at establishments/programs in community that are frequented by families experiencing homelessness:
  - Food banks, soup kitchens, shelters, schools, coalitions
Arkansas
Chat room activity

• What innovative strategies have you used to conduct outreach to families experiencing homelessness?

• **Early Childhood Homelessness in the United States: 50-State Profile** is a “snapshot” of early childhood data available for children who are experiencing homelessness in each State. [Find Individual State profiles here](#). *(also includes information on school-age children, ages 5-12)*

• The **Guide to Developmental and Behavioral Screening** for housing and shelter providers addresses the importance of developmental and behavioral screening, how to talk to parents, where to go for help, and how to select the most appropriate screening tool for the population served as well as the provider implementing the screening.

• The **Highlights on Homelessness from the ECD Newsletters in 2015** compilation of articles provides resources from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and partners including Project CATCH in Raleigh, NC; Primo Center for Women and children, Chicago, IL; Research to Policy Resource List; UMOM in Phoenix, AZ; and Families in Transition, Rockford, IL.
Resources: Policies and Guidance

• The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness *Family Connection* brief (and related webinar) provides the Federal vision of a coordinated community response to family homelessness, which highlights the role of early childhood programs and coordinated entry.

• **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Coordinated Entry Policy Brief** provides an overview of effective coordinated entry processes.

• **Policies and Procedures** to increase access to early care and education (ECE) services for homeless children and families

• **Policies for Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV)** to increase access to ECE services for homeless children and families in tribal communities

• **Definitions of Homelessness for Federal Programs Serving Children, Youth, and Families** chart illustrates the similarities and differences of the two major Federal definitions of homelessness in use by the Department of Education in Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Act, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Section 103 of Subtitle I of the McKinney-Vento Act


Visit the NCASE Resource Library:
https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/ncase-resource-library
Contact Information

Visit the NCASE website at:
https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/national-center-afterschool-summer-enrichment

To contact NCASE, email us at: ncase@ecetta.info
To contact SCBC, email us at: CapacityBuildingCenter@icfi.com
To contact NCCCSIA, email us at: ncccsia@ecetta.info

Thank You!